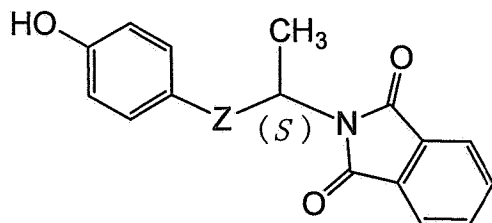


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

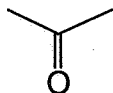
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

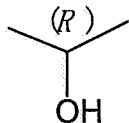
1. (currently amended): A ~~phenol derivative~~ compound represented by the general formula:



wherein the carbon atom marked with (S) represents a carbon atom in S configuration; Z is the group represented by the formula:

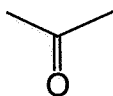


or the formula:

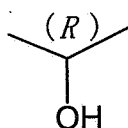


wherein the carbon atom marked with (R) represents a carbon atom in R configuration.

2. (currently amended): A ~~phenol derivative~~ compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein Z is the group represented by the formula stated bellow.

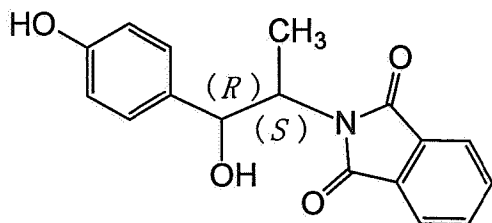


3. (currently amended): A ~~phenol derivative~~ compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein Z is the group represented by the formula:

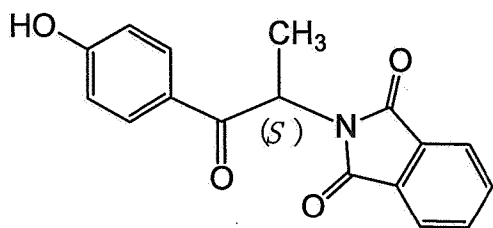


wherein the carbon atom marked with (R) represents a carbon atom in R configuration.

4. (currently amended): A method to produce a ~~phenol derivative~~ compound represented by the formula:

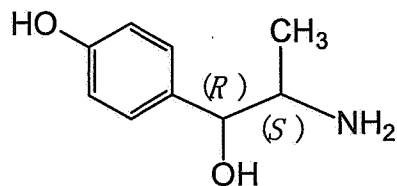


~~(wherein)~~wherein the carbon atom marked with (R) represents a carbon atom in R configuration, and the carbon atom marked (S) represents a carbon atom in S configuration)configuration, which comprises catalytic hydrogenating a ~~phenol derivative~~ compound represented by the following formula in the presence of a hydrogenation catalyst:

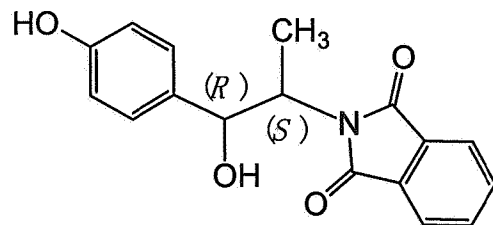


wherein a carbon atom marked with (S) ~~have~~ has the same meaning as defined above.

5. (currently amended): A method to produce a ~~phenol derivative~~ compound represented by the formula:



~~(wherein~~ wherein the carbon atom marked with (R) represents a carbon atom in R configuration, and the carbon atom marked (S) represents a carbon atom in S configuration) ~~configuration~~ configuration, which comprises removing the ~~phthaloyl~~ phthaloyl group of a ~~phenol derivative~~ compound represented by the formula:



wherein the carbon atoms marked with (R) and (S) have the same meanings as defined above.

6. (new): The method according to claim 4, wherein said hydrogenation catalyst is palladium catalyst or nickel catalyst.

7. (new): The method according to claim 5, wherein the removing of the phthaloyl group is by treatment with a primary amine, hydrazine anhydrate or a hydrate thereof.